

RELATIONAL WEEDING

September 25, 2022 • Psalm 139:1-3 & 23-24
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INTRODUCTION:

“The Kingdom of Heaven is like a farmer who planted good seed in his field. But that night as the workers slept, his enemy came and planted weeds among the wheat, then slipped away. When the crop began to grow and produce grain, the weeds also grew.”

— Matthew 13:24-26

“Other seeds fell among thorns that grew up and choked out the tender plants.”

— Matthew 13:7

C. Realities of relational weeds:

1. Weeds will compete with healthy seeds.
2. It's best to weed first before seeding
3. Weeds need to be dealt with quickly when they show up.
4. Relational weeds grow rapidly when things are “hot.”
5. Weeding is an ongoing undertaking.
6. Some weeds have a deep tap root and may need professional attention.

I. LET THE WEEDING BEGIN!

A. Relationships are a journey and so weeding will always be needed.

“Every plant not planted by my heavenly Father will be uprooted...” — Matthew 15:13

So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives...the sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants...These two forces are constantly fighting each other.

— Galatians 5:16-17

B. Plant good seeds and beware of our human tendency to spread “bad seeds.”

“Listen! a farmer went out to plant some (good) seed.” — Matthew 13:3

- Relational good seed we can sow:

The seeds of good deeds become a tree of life; a wise person wins friends.”

— Prov. 11:30

- ❖ Encouragement (Romans 15:5)
- ❖ Help (1 Corinthians 12:7)
- ❖ Serve (Romans 14:18)
- ❖ Care (1 Corinthians 12:25)
- ❖ Appreciation (Ephesians 3:14-21)
- ❖ Love (John 13:34-35)

- Relational bad seeds (weeds) we can sow:

- ❖ Bitterness (Ephesians 4:31)
- ❖ Rage (Ephesians 4:31)
- ❖ Anger (Ephesians 4:31)
- ❖ Harsh words (Ephesians 4:31)
- ❖ Slander (Ephesians 4:31)
- ❖ Jealousy (2 Corinthians 12:20)
- ❖ Selfishness (2 Corinthians 12:20)
- ❖ Gossip (2 Corinthians 12:20)
- ❖ Arrogance (2 Corinthians 12:20)

C. Be willing to uproot the weeds — in us and with others.

O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything about me. You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I'm far away. You see me when I travel and when I rest at home. You know everything I do. — Psalm 139:1-3

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me; and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you (or others) and lead me along the path of everlasting life. — Psalm 1:23-24

• Do you need to admit your sin, apologize and ask forgiveness?

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. — James 5:16

CONCLUSION